REMARKS

Claims 12 and 31 are amended herein. Claims 1-38 remain pending in the application.

Allowable Claim

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 12 and 31 recite allowable subject matter. Claims 12 and 31 are amended herein to be in independent form. Claims 12 and 31 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-5, 7, 9, 13-17, 19-24, 26, 28, 30, 32-36 and 38 over Clark

In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7, 9, 20-24, 26, 28 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Clark, U.S. Patent No. 5,960,074 ("Clark"), with claims 13-17, 19, 32-36 and 38 allegedly being obvious over Clark. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-5, 7, 9, 20-24, 26, 28 and 30 recite, *inter alia,* a mobile chat proxy server in a communication path between a standard Internet Relay Chat server and a wireless gateway server supporting a mobile device.

Clark appears to teach a telecomputer network comprising a redundant digital microwave communication system, at least one mobile vehicle, and a wireless local area network (LAN) (Abstract). A microwave communication system transfers information using ethernet packet switching (Clark, Abstract). The wireless LAN transfers information using TCP/IP (Clark, Abstract). The mobile vehicle is configured to transfer information as a single nomadic transmission/reception point between the micro-wave communication system and the wireless LAN (Clark, Abstract).

According to Clark, a mobile hub station includes a file server which accesses (but doesn't include) a proxy server used to coordinate communications with a microwave antenna of a relay station (Clark, col. 5, lines 8-13). The file server updates a server back at a home office and operates in synchronization with the home office (Clark, col. 5, lines 13-15). The file server also employs file sharing and routes mail (Clark, col. 5, lines 15-16). The system provides services such as e-mail, downloading or uploading files from the FTP

sites and Internet Relay Chat (IRC), as well as video conferencing (Clark, col. 5, lines 45-48).

Thus, Clark's mobile vehicle 103 contains a file server 103A which merely accesses a proxy server (col. 5, lines 8-10). According to Clark, places a **mobile hub** 103B is between a **file server** 103A and a **remote wireless LAN** 104, which acts as a gateway to the Internet. Clark's mobile hub is NOT a mobile chat proxy server as claimed; Clark's file server is NOT an IRC server as claimed; and Clark's remote wireless LAN is NOT a wireless gateway server as claimed. Accordingly, Clark fails to teach a mobile chat proxy server in a communication path between a standard Internet Relay Chat server and a wireless gateway server supporting a mobile device, as claimed by claims 1-5, 7, 9, 20-24, 26, 28 and 30.

A benefit results from placing a mobile chat proxy server between a standard Internet Relay Chat server and a wireless gateway server, e.g., efficient transfer of data. A proxy server integrates the components within a communication path by serving as a proxy between a wireless Internet gateway and a standard IRC server. A proxy server enables a rich client application for an otherwise "incompatible" or limited capacity device (such as a wireless handset).

Moreover, claims 13-17, 19, 32-36 and 38 recite, *inter alia*, examining non-standard chat group commands transmitted by a mobile device.

The Office Action correctly acknowledged that Clark fails to teach taking non-standard chat group commands to standard IRC protocol. However, the Office Action states it would have been obvious to allegedly make up for the deficiencies in Clark to arrive at the claimed invention. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Office Action states having a translation protocol stack is old and notorious in the art and providing a system with translation capability for converting non-standard messages to standard messages would have been standard practice for one of ordinary skill in the art. The Office Action's rationale for taking non-standard chat group commands to standard IRC protocol is it

"would have been desirable to have provided a system with the means to converse with multiple systems".

The Office Action's rationale is misguided. Providing Clark with a translating protocol stack would be useless since Clark's system does not require such a translating protocol stack for functionality. Clark fails to teach any incompatibility between the components within the communication system, much less examining non-standard chat group commands transmitted by a mobile device, as claimed by claims 13-17, 19, 32-36 and 38.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 1-5, 7, 9, 13-17, 19-24, 26, 28, 30, 32-36 and 38 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 6, 8, 10, 25, 27 and 29 over Clark in view of Holmes

In the Office Action, claims 6, 8, 10, 25, 27 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Clark in view of Holmes et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,178,331 ("Holmes"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 6, 8, 10, 25, 27 and 29 are dependent on claims 1 and 20 respectively, and are allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 20.

Claims 6, 8, 10, 25, 27 and 29 recite, *inter alia,* a mobile chat proxy server in a communication path between a standard Internet Relay Chat server and a wireless gateway server supporting a mobile device.

As discussed above, Clark fails to teach a mobile chat proxy server in a communication path between a standard Internet Relay Chat server and a wireless gateway server supporting a mobile device, as claimed by claims 6, 8, 10, 25, 27 and 29.

The Office Action correctly acknowledged that Clark fails to teach using SMPP or a short message system controller. However, the Office Action relies on Holmes to allegedly make up for the deficiencies in Clark to arrive at the claimed invention. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

Holmes appears to teach a bi-directional multiplexing messaging gateway for wireless devices (Abstract). Kernel processes within the gateway

comprise short message system SMS that manages interaction with SMSC via a communications protocol (SMPP for SMS systems) (col. 3, lines 19-24).

Holmes fails to make up for the deficiencies in Clark. Neither Clark nor Holmes, either alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest a mobile chat proxy server in a communication path between a standard Internet Relay Chat server and a wireless gateway server supporting a mobile device, as claimed by claims 6, 8, 10, 25, 27 and 29.

A benefit of a chat proxy server is, e.g., that the chat proxy server can also be extended to other "messaging" protocols.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 6, 8, 10, 25, 27 and 29 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 18 and 37 over Clark in view of King

In the Office Action, claims 18 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Clark in view of King, U.S. Patent No. 6,317,831 ("King"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 18 and 37 are dependent on claims 13 and 32 respectively, and are allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 13 and 32.

Claims 18 and 32 recite, *inter alia,* validating a user of a mobile device before forwarding chat commands to a chat group server.

The Office Action correctly acknowledges that Clark fails to teach validating a user of a mobile device before forwarding chat commands to a chat group server. However, the Office Action relies on King to allegedly make up for the deficiencies in Clark to arrive at the claimed invention. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

King appears to teach improved techniques for facilitating secure data transfer over one-way data channels or narrowband channels (Abstract). Cryptographic handshake operations for a one-way data channel to be performed over a companion two-way data channel so the one-way data channel is able to satisfy security protocols (King, Abstract). A secure

transmission between a server and client is established by validation during an initial handshake (King, col. 8, lines 19-29).

Validation of a connection between a server and client to forward encrypted data to a either a server or client is NOT validating a user of a mobile device before forwarding chat commands to a chat group server, as claimed by claims 18 and 37.

Further, the proxy server must maintain over a connectionless communications path the session between the validated user and the chat group server.

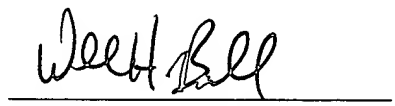
Neither Clark nor Holmes, either alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest validating a user of a mobile device before forwarding chat commands to a chat group server, as claimed by claims 18 and 37.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 18 and 37 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

12. (Amended) A [The] method of providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device [according to claim 1], [further] comprising:

placing a mobile chat proxy server in a communication path between a standard Internet Relay Chat server and a wireless gateway server supporting said mobile device; and

ghosting said channel of said Internet Relay Chat group;

wherein said mobile chat proxy server forwards chat commands from said mobile device to said standard Internet Relay Chat server.

31. (Amended) [The a]Apparatus for providing access to a channel of an Internet Relay Chat group to a mobile device [according to claim 20], [further] comprising:

a mobile chat proxy server in a communication path between a standard Internet Relay Chat server and a wireless gateway server supporting said mobile device;

means for ghosting said channel of said Internet Relay Chat group;

wherein said mobile chat proxy server forwards chat commands from said mobile device to said standard Internet Relay Chat server.